

Introduction to Kanbun: W4019 (Fall 2008)

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:10-10:25, Starr Library Kress Room

David Lurie (212-854-5034, DBL11@columbia.edu)

Office Hours: M 11-12:30 and W 3:00-4:30, 500A Kent Hall

This class is intended to build proficiency in reading the variety of classical Japanese written styles subsumed under the broad term *kanbun* 漢文. More specifically, it aims to foster familiarity with *kundoku* 訓読, a collection of techniques for reading and writing classical Japanese in texts largely or entirely composed of Chinese characters. It is impossible to achieve fluent reading ability using these techniques in a mere semester; this class is an introduction. Students will gain familiarity with a basic toolbox of reading strategies as they are exposed to a variety of premodern written styles and genres, laying groundwork for subsequent attainment of more thorough competency in specific areas relevant to their research.

This is **not** a class in Classical Chinese: those who desire facility with reading Chinese classical texts are urged to study Classical Chinese itself. (On the other hand, some prior familiarity with Classical Chinese will make much of this class easier). The pre-requisite for this class is Introduction to Classical Japanese (W4007); because our focus is the use of Classical Japanese as a tool to understand character-based texts, **it is assumed that students will already have control of basic Classical Japanese grammar**. Students with concerns about their competence should discuss them with me immediately.

Goals of the course:

- 1) Acquire basic familiarity with *kundoku* techniques of reading, with a focus on the classes of special characters (unread characters, twice-read characters, negations, etc.) that form the bulk of traditional Japanese *kanbun* pedagogy.
- 2) Gain facility in the use of Classical Chinese-Japanese dictionaries (*kanwa jiten* 漢和辞典) and other basic reference materials, and understand how to apply the skills learned in this course to more extensive readings in literary or historical sources.

Texts and Dictionaries:

- 1) The primary text is **Akira Komai and Thomas Rohlich's *An Introduction to Japanese Kanbun* (Univ. of Nagoya Press, 1988; hereafter referred to as **Komai**)**; it will be supplemented by material from a standard Japanese study guide, *Shin kanbun no kihon nôto* (新・漢文の基本ノート; **Nichieisha, 1998; hereafter referred to as **Kihon****). Komai is, lamentably, out-of-print and, incredibly, not in the Starr library collection; it and Kihon will be posted as pdfs to Courseworks.
- 2) **Sydney Cawcours's *An Introduction to Kambun* (Michigan Center for Japanese Studies, 1965)** is available online as a pdf from the Center (<http://www.hti.umich.edu/c/cjs/>); students are expected to consult this very helpful guide as a supplementary resource.
- 3) The last, and most definitely mandatory, text is a **Classical Chinese-Japanese dictionary** (*kanwa jiten* 漢和辞典), which students must purchase and **bring to every class**. What

type of dictionary to obtain will be discussed during the introductory session; basically, you should look for the following two features:

- 1) definitions of characters that explain their different meanings rather than simply supplying one-word readings
- 2) all example texts accompanied by *kakikudashi* (書き下し; writing out *kanbun* in more readable Classical Japanese format).

Particularly recommended are: ***Kanjigen*** (漢字源; Gakushû kenkyûsha, 1994, followed by multiple revisions), widely available in electronic form; ***Hikkei kanwa jiten*** (必携漢和辞典; Kadokawa shoten, 1996); and ***Kanjikai*** (漢辞海; Sanseidô, 1999/2006). All can be purchased at Kinokuniya or Asahiya in midtown, from Amazon.co.jp, or from www.bk1.co.jp.

SCHEDULE

- 1) Wed. 3 Sept. **Introduction** to goals and structure of course; go over Komai Chap. 1, pp. 1-3, 5-9, 15 and Kihon pp. 3-5 and 7 on *okurigana* 送り仮名, *kaeriten* 返り点, etc.
- 2) Mon. 8 Sept. **Unread Characters** (*okiji* 置き字) and **Auxiliary Characters** (*joji* 助字) prepositional particles *o* [於] and *u* [于]; conjunctive particle *yo* [與]; conjunctive particle *ji* [而]; sentence particle *i* [矣]
 Komai Chap. 2, pp. 19-23
 Komai Chap. 3, pp. 33-36
 Kihon p. 6, p. 58
- 3) Wed. 10 Sept. **Negation, Quotation, Simple Requests and Requests for Permission**
 negatives *fu* [不] and *futsu* [弗], quotative *etsu* [曰], and requests
 Komai Chap. 2, 23-28
Reading: Uesugi Kenshin Sends Salt to Takeda Shingen (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 2, p. 32)
- 4) Mon. 15 Sept. **Causative Markers, Sentence Final Particles**
 causative markers *shi* [使], *rei* [令], *kyô* [教], and *ken* [遣]; sentence particles *ji* [耳], *i* [已], *i* [矣], and *ya* [也]
 Komai Chap. 3, pp. 36-38
 Komai Chap. 4, pp. 46-49
 Kihon p. 28
- 5) Wed. 17 Sept. **Negative Imperative, Negative Copula**
 negative imperative (prohibition) *butsu* [勿]; negative copula *hi* [非] ([匪])
 Komai Chap. 4, pp. 45-46
 Komai Chap. 5, pp. 55-56
 Kihon p. 20
Reading: Kobayakawa Takakage's Valor in Korea (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 3, p. 43)
- 6) Mon. 22 Sept. **Existential Expressions, Comparative Statements**
 existence *yû* [有]; comparison *jo* [如] and *jaku* [若]
 Komai Chap. 5, pp. 56-60
- 7) Wed. 24 Sept. **Starting Point Indicator, "If" Clauses**

starting point *ji* [自], *ji hi* [自非]; conditional *jaku* [若]

Komai Chap. 5, pp. 60-61

Komai Chap. 6, p. 72

Readings: Parting Words and Posthumous Deceptions of Takeda Shingen (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 4, p. 54) **and** *Hôjôki mana-bon* beginning (Komai Chap. 5, p. 66)

8) Mon. 29 Sept. **Twice-read Characters I** (*saidoku moji* 再読文字)

mi [未] (*imada ... zu*) and *shô* [將]/*sho* [且] (*masa ni ... -mu[n] to su*)

Komai Chap. 6, pp. 67-69

Kihon pp. 14-15

9) Wed. 1 Oct. **Twice-read Characters II**

tô [當]/*ô* [應] (*masa ni ... beshi*), *shu* [須] (*subekaraku ... beshi*), and *gi* [宜] (*yoroshiku ... beshi*)

Komai Chap. 6, pp. 69-71

Kihon pp. 14-15

Readings: Remainder of *Hôjôki mana-bon* excerpt **and** Nobunaga's Heroic Character (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 6, pp. 75-76)

10) Mon. 6 Oct. **Desire, Means, and Reasons**

desiderative marker *yoku* [欲], means and reasons *i* [以], and multi-purpose *i* [爲]

Komai Chap. 7, pp. 77-84

11) Wed. 8 Oct. **Potential, Permissibility, and Emphasis**

multi-purpose *ka* [可] and emphasis marker *sha* [者]

Komai Chap. 7, pp. 85-89

Readings: Hideyoshi's Name (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 7, p. 94) **and** Nobunaga's Valor (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 8, p. 107)

12) Mon. 13 Oct. **Comparison**

comparative *o* [於] (*u* [于] and *ko* [乎]) and *yû* [猶]

Komai Chap. 8, pp. 97-99

Kihon pp. 34-35

13) Wed. 15 Oct. **Potential and Approximation**

potential *nô* [能] and *toku* [得]; approximate *kyo* [許]

Komai Chap. 8, pp. 99-103

Reading: Nobunaga's Valor continued (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 8, p. 106 and p. 108)

14) Mon. 20 Oct. Review.

15) Wed. 22 Oct. **MIDTERM EXAM**

16) Mon. 27 Oct. **Passive Sentences**

Komai Chap. 9, pp. 109-113

Kihon p. 32

17) Wed. 29 Oct. **Concessions, Conditions, and Reasons**

concessive *sui* [雖] (*iedomo*), conditional marker *ko* [苟], and reason *shoi* [所以] (*yuen*)

Komai Chap. 9, pp. 122-123

Kihon p. 59

Reading: Nobunaga's Downfall (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 9, p. 127)

NO CLASS 3 and 5 Nov.

18) Mon. 10 Nov. **Genuine Questions: Yes-No, Alternative, Interrogative**

Komai Chap. 9, pp. 113-122

19) Wed. 12 Nov. **Rhetorical Questions I**

Yes-No, WH-word, and *gai* [豈] rhetorical questions

Komai Chap. 10, pp. 129-135

Kihon pp. 42-47

Reading: Nobunaga's Downfall continued (*Nihon gaishi*; Komai Chap. 9, p. 126 and p. 128)

20) Mon 17 Nov. **Rhetorical Questions II**

rhetorical question markers *kan fu* [敢不], *fu eki ... ko* [不亦...乎], and *ka fu* [何不] (advice)

Komai Chap. 10, pp. 136-139

Kihon pp. 50 and 52-53

21) Wed. 19 Nov. Review

Reading: Record of Mt. Fuji (*Honchô monzui*; Komai Chap. 10, pp. 143-142 [vocabulary notes on p. 144])

22) Mon. 24 Nov. Mt. Fuji continued

23) Wed. 26 Nov. The Assassination of Soga no Iruka (*Nihon shoki*)

24) Mon. 1 Dec. The Adventures of Lightning Boy (*Nihon ryôiki*)

25) Wed. 3 Dec. Lightning Boy continued

26) Mon. 8 Dec. Selections from *Sentetsu sôdan*

Final exam: Date, time, and location TBA

一字で二度読む文字を特に再読文字といいます。二度めの読みの送り
がなを、文字の左側につける場合があります。

1	未 _ニ ——〔未 _ニ ——〕 未 _ニ 嘗 _ニ 敗 _ニ 北 _ニ 。	〔語〕 いまだ——ず	〔語〕 まだ——ない (否定)
	未 _ニ 嘗 _ニ 敗 _ニ 北 _ニ 。	未だ嘗て敗北せず。	まだ一度も戦いに敗れたことはない。
2	将 _ニ ——〔将 _ニ ——〕 且 _ニ ——〔且 _ニ ——〕 将 _ニ 自 _ニ 撃 _ニ 之 _ニ 。 吾 且 _ニ 親 _ニ 往 _ニ 。	〔語〕 まさに——ントす	〔語〕 (今にも)—— なりそうである (未来) (し)そうである しようとする (意志) しようと思う
	将 _ニ 自 _ニ 撃 _ニ 之 _ニ 。 吾 且 _ニ 親 _ニ 往 _ニ 。	将に自ら之を撃たんとす。 吾且に親ら往かんとす。	自分からこれを討とうとする。 私は自分から行こうと思う。
3	当 _ニ ——〔当 _ニ ——〕 應 _ニ ——〔應 _ニ ——〕 及 _ニ 時 _ニ 当 _ニ 勉 _ニ 励 _ニ 。 應 _ニ 知 _ニ 故 _ニ 郷 _ニ 事 _ニ 。	〔語〕 まさに——ベシ	〔語〕 当然——すべきである (当然) きつと——だろう (推定) ——にちがいない
	及 _ニ 時 _ニ 当 _ニ 勉 _ニ 励 _ニ 。 應 _ニ 知 _ニ 故 _ニ 郷 _ニ 事 _ニ 。	時に及んで当に勉励すべし。 應に故郷の事を知るべし。	機会をのがさず大いに励むべきである。 (あなたは)きつと故郷のことを存じてしよう。
4	宜 _ニ ——〔宜 _ニ ——〕 用 _ニ 人 _ニ 宜 _ニ 取 _ニ 其 _ニ 所 _ニ 長 _ニ 。	〔語〕 よろしく——ベシ	〔語〕 ——するのがよい (適当)
	用 _ニ 人 _ニ 宜 _ニ 取 _ニ 其 _ニ 所 _ニ 長 _ニ 。	人を用ふるは、宜しく其の長 ずる所を取るべし。	人を用いるには、その人のすぐれている 点を取りあげるのがよい。
5	須 _ニ ——〔須 _ニ ——〕 須 _ニ 常 _ニ 思 _ニ 病 _ニ 苦 _ニ 時 _ニ 。 今 日 _ニ 送 _ニ 君 _ニ 須 _ニ 尽 _ニ 醉 _ニ 。	〔語〕 べからく——ベシ	〔語〕 ——する必要がある (必要) ぜひ——たい (希望)
	須 _ニ 常 _ニ 思 _ニ 病 _ニ 苦 _ニ 時 _ニ 。 今 日 _ニ 送 _ニ 君 _ニ 須 _ニ 尽 _ニ 醉 _ニ 。	須らく常に病苦の時を思ふ べし。 今日君を送る(に)須らく酔 を尽くすべし。	常に病苦の時を思う必要がある。 きよう君を送るにあたって、ぜひ(別れ の)酒を飲み尽くして酔いたい。
6	猶 _ニ ——〔猶 _ニ ——〕 由 _ニ ——〔由 _ニ ——〕 今 之 _ニ 樂 _ニ 由 _ニ 古 _ニ 之 _ニ 樂 _ニ 。 猶 _ニ 水 _ニ 勝 _ニ 火 _ニ 。	〔語〕 なほ—— (体言ノ) (活用語ガ) ことし ※活用語は連体形にする。	〔語〕 ——に似ている あたかも——のようだ (比況)
	今 之 _ニ 樂 _ニ 由 _ニ 古 _ニ 之 _ニ 樂 _ニ 。 猶 _ニ 水 _ニ 勝 _ニ 火 _ニ 。	今の樂は由は古の樂のことし。 猶は水の火に勝つがことし。	今の音楽は昔の音楽に似ている。 あたかも水が火に勝つようだ。
7	盍 _ニ ——〔盍 _ニ ——〕 盍 _ニ 各 _ニ 言 _ニ 汝 _ニ 志 _ニ 。	〔語〕 なんぞ——ざル	〔語〕 どうして——しないのか、——する のがよい (勧告)
	盍 _ニ 各 _ニ 言 _ニ 汝 _ニ 志 _ニ 。	盍を各々汝の志を言はざる。	どうして、それぞれおまえたちの志を話 さないのか、話すがよい。

- b. 終不得歸漢。(漢・蘇) = 終に漢に歸ることを得ず。

In the end he did not get a chance to return to Han.

Although both 能 and 得 indicate possibility, 能 indicates personal ("endogenous") possibility, while 得 indicates "to get an opportunity to ---" ("exogenous" possibility). This difference is brought out fairly clearly in Japanese.

4. 可～ indicating permission or approval. Japanese form: ～べし [Type I].

i.

- a. 可殺。(孟・梁下) = 殺すべし。 Fit to kill.
- b. 不可殺。(孟・梁下) = 殺すべからず。 Not permissible to kill.
- c. 子謂公冶長, 可妻也。(論・公冶長) = 子公冶長を謂ふ, 妻すべきなり。

The Master said of Kung Yeh Chang, "He is fit to have my daughter married to him."

Notice that Example c does *not* mean "Kung Yeh Chang can marry his daughter to someone." This is an important difference between 可～ and 能～.

彼能取。 = 彼能く取る。 He can take [something].

彼可取。 = 彼, 取るべし。 As for him, he can be taken.

- d. 天下國家可均也。爵祿可辭也。白刃可蹈也。中庸不可能也。
(中庸・九) = 天下國家(は)均しうすべきなり。爵祿(は)辭すべきなり。
白刃(は)蹈むべきなり。中庸(は)能くすべからざるなり。

An empire or state can be pacified, an appointment and its associated income can be refused, cold steel can be trodden underfoot; but the Mean cannot be encompassed.

- e. 道也者不可須臾離也。(中庸・一) = 道は須臾も離るべからず。

The Way is not to be departed from even for a moment.

- f. 光昭先君之令德, 可不務乎。(左傳・隱公三年) = 先君の令徳を
光昭せんこと, 務めざるべけんや。

Can it be permissible not to do one's best to make the splendid virtue of your predecessor shine forth!

CHAPTER FIVE

5.1 [非] (匪) <i>hi</i> : Negative Copula Expression	55
5.2 [有] <i>yuu</i> : Existential Expressions	56
5.3 [如] <i>zyo</i> and [若] <i>zyaku</i> : Comparative Statements	58
5.4 [自] <i>zi</i> , [自非] <i>zi hi</i> : Starting Point Indicator	60

5.1 [非] (匪) *hi*: Negative Copula Expression

In Chapter Two we saw that the characters [不] *hu* and [弗] *hutu* are *hendoku mozi* (返読文字: invertly read characters) used to form negative expressions with inflecting words. The character [非] (匪) *hi* is also a *hendoku mozi* which is used to form a negative expression, but it is normally used before noun phrases to form negative copula expressions. The noun phrase following [非] *hi* may be an ordinary noun phrase with a noun at its head, with or without an adjectival modifier (See Example 1a), or it may be the *rentaikei* of an inflecting word, with or without modifying phrases (See Example 1b).

In *kundoku* [非] *hi* is read as *ara-zu* or one of its variant forms, and the *okurigana* [二] *ni* is always added to the noun phrase.

When [非] *hi* is a part of a compound, as in [非人] *hinin* “non-human,” or “outcast,” no inversion takes place.

Example 1a

非 _レ 魚 _ニ 不 _レ 知 _ラ 水 _ノ 能 _キ 心 _ヲ	知 _ラ 魚 _ニ ア _ラ ザ _レ バ _バ 水 _ノ ヨ _キ 心 _ヲ
--	--

*uo ni ara-zare-ba mizu no yoki kokoro
o sira-zu*

*Sakana denakereba mizu no subarasisa
wa wakara-nai.*

“Unless one is a fish, one would not
know how nice water is.”

Exercise 3 Rewrite the following sentences in *kakikudasibun* and translate them into both modern Japanese and English.

- (10) 乗_レ夜_ニ至_リ湖_ニ東_ニ循_レ湖_ニ而_ニ馳_ス。
- (9) 縦_ニ火_ヲ関_セ原_ハ而_ニ退_キ陣_ニ于_ニ木_ニ本_ニ。
- (8) 女房等_ヲ令_メ乗_セ車_ヲ余_ニ独_リ候_ヲ仏_ニ前_ニ。
- (7) 仰_イ不_レ愧_ハ於_ニ天_ニ。
- (6) 秀吉_ニ屏_ニ左_ニ右_ヲ與_{トモ}語_ル。
- (5) 汝_ニ善_ク計_リ之_ヲ使_メ我_ガ家_ヲ不_レ至_ラ滅_ニ亡_ニ。
- (4) 我_ム教_ム人_ヲ往_ニ関_ニ東_ニ而_ニ討_タ北_ニ條_ニ氏_ヲ。
- (3) 謙信_ニ自_ラ作_リ詩_ヲ而_ニ令_ム将_ヲ兵_ヲ善_ク歌_フ詩_ヲ者_ヲ皆_ニ和_セ之_ニ。
- (2) 信玄_ニ使_ム勝_ヲ頼_ヲ攝_セ衆_ヲ俟_マ信_ニ勝_ヲ長_ニ。
- (1) 我等_ニ聞_ク有_ル行_ニ幸_ニ之_ニ儀_ニ久_シ矣_。

Chapter 6 — Reading Selection II

信長與信行設法會觀者甚衆信長先進攫
 香投鑪内一拜而出信行整容拈香拜伏久
 之觀者窃譽信行有西海僧在衆中相信長
 曰「此子英雄也」

(日本外史 織田氏上)

信長與信行設法會觀者甚衆信長先進攫
 香投鑪内一拜而出信行整容拈香拜伏久
 之觀者窃譽信行有西海僧在衆中相信長
 曰此子英雄也